

Message Text

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61

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-12 INT-08 COME-00 EB-11 SCEM-02 AID-20

/159 R

DRAFTED BY AF/ P: BRUSSELL: ADR

EXT 20362 5/29/73

APPROVED BY AF/ P: JMPOPE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: PFOR CPAS LY

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE ON LIBYA

1. DAVID OTTAWAY ARTICLE IN WASHINGTON POST MAY 29
DESCRIBES DETERIORATING US- LIBYAN RELATIONS WITH SPECIFIC
REFERENCE TO PASSPORT ISSUE, LIBYAN DEMAND FOR FULL
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CONTROL OF LOCAL OIL OPERATIONS, AND FLIGHTS OF US
AIRCRAFT IN LIBYAN- CLAIMED RESTRICTED AIR ZONE.

2. ARTICLE CLAIMS US HAS CONTACTED WESTERN EUROPEAN
NATIONS AND SOVIET UNION IN EFFORT TO FORCE LIBYA TO BACK
DOWN ON PASSPORT REQUIREMENTS. STATE DEPARTMENT IS
QUOTED AS SAYING ALL COUNTRIES EXCEPT CHAD, NIGER AND
MALTA ARE STANDING PAT IN REFUSAL TO ACCEPT LIBYAN DEMAND
PASSPORTS BE IN ARABIC.

3. ACCORDING TO OTTAWAY, STATE DEPARTMENT HAS CONSIDERED
BREAKING DIPLOMATIC TIES BUT HAS CONCLUDED THAT NO USEFUL
PURPOSE WOULD BE SERVED PARTICULARLY WHEN " MAJOR CONFRON-
TATION BETWEEN LIBYA AND AMERICAN OIL COMPANIES IS
LOOMING."

4. OTTAWAY SAID U. S. POSITION IS " TO SIT AND WAIT." HE
ADDED: " US GOVERNMENT IS APPARENTLY BANKING ON WIDE

INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMATIC SUPPORT OVER PASSPORT ISSUE TO
AVOID BEING PLACED IN POSITION WHERE IT MIGHT BE
FORCED TO BREAK DIPLOMATIC TIES -- A MOVE SOME STATE
DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS SPECULATE LIBYAN LEADER QADDAFI
IS DELIBERATELY PUSHING THE US TO TAKE.

5. " STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS SAY THAT DELICATE
STATE OF AFFAIRS BETWEEN US AND LIBYA HAS STABILIZED
SOMEWHAT IN PAST FEW DAYS. BUT THEY ADD THAT PASSPORT
ISSUE IS MAKING IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT FOR US GOVERN-
MENT TO CARRY ON EVEN MODEST LEVEL OF DIPLOMATIC CONTACT
WITH LIBYANS."
ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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Subject: SUMMARY OF WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE ON LIBYA
TAGS: CPAS, PFOR, LY, n/a
To: ALGIERS
BEIRUT
LONDON
MOSCOW
NATO
PARIS
ROME

TRIPOLI
TUNIS
VALLETTA

Type: TE

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